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as the student is presumed to be sufficiently familiar with them and their meaning. How useful the book may prove can only be determined by experience; but many pupils will be interested in thus tracing the various derivatives of a given stem. There is one serious defect in the execution of the work. The pages are encumbered with long notes, sometimes filling half a page, about such things as the atmosphere, gravity, gladiatorial shows, etc.,—notes which are sadly out of place in a dictionary. We noticed also some inaccuracies, such as calling the Latin *honestus* Greek, and the Greek *laos* Latin. The work is illustrated by numerous quotations, mostly in verse.

An Elementary History of the United States. By CHARLES MORRIS. Philadelphia, Lippincott. 12°. 60 cents.

THIS work covers the whole period of American history from the discovery of the continent to the present time; and yet it is all crowded into two hundred and forty pages. The natural result is that the narrative is too much condensed, and contains too much detail for so short a work. This is the common fault of brief histories, and not only renders them less interesting than they might be, but also tends to obscure the main outlines of the subject. Apart from this defect, however, Mr. Morris's work is pretty well done. We like in particular the attention he gives to the social life of the people and the progress of industry,—matters that are not only important in themselves, but also interesting to young people. The book is illustrated with both pictures and maps.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

THE September issue of the *Contemporary Review* will contain an article covering some twenty-three pages, by Rudyard Kipling, entitled "The Enlightenment of Pagett, M.P.," which, in the form of a story, is a trenchant criticism on the National Con-

gress movement in India. The *Contemporary* is published in America by the Leonard Scott Publication Company at 40 cents per number.

—Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. announce that they will have ready for publication in the early part of September a book by John Fiske, entitled "Civil Government in the United States, considered with some Reference to its Origins." In this book Mr. Fiske aims to set forth the principles and methods of civil government as understood and exemplified in the republic of the United States and in the several States; and he traces the rise and development of the various forms of government of towns, counties, cities, states, and the nation, with their relations to one another. Although of great interest to the general reader, the book is designed primarily for use in schools; and to make it still more practicable for this purpose, there have been added at the end of each section questions on the text, and at the end of each chapter suggestive questions and directions "designed to stimulate reading, investigation, and thought." These questions and suggestions have been prepared with great care by Frank A. Hill, the head master of the English High School at Cambridge, Mass. Mr. Fiske has also added a bibliographical note at the end of each chapter.

—The most important article in the *Political Science Quarterly* for September is that on "State Control of Corporations," by George K. Holmes. It is an account of what has been done in Massachusetts toward securing the rights of the public against corporations of every description, and is a very encouraging exhibit. The Massachusetts method consists in the maintenance of commissions whose duty it is to hear complaints, settle disputes when possible, and give advice to the Legislature on the one hand, and to the corporations on the other. This method has proved very successful in protecting the public against abuses; and, in Mr. Holmes's opinion, it only needs to be extended to trade com-

Publications received at Editor's Office,
Aug. 25—Sept. 6.

- DIEHL, Mrs. Anna Randall. *A Practical Delsarte Primer.* Syracuse, N.Y., C. W. Bardeen. 66 p. 16°.
- HAYWARD, R. B. *The Elements of Solid Geometry.* London and New York, Macmillan. 130 p. 16°. 75 cents.
- HEALTH for Little Folks. New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago, Amer. Book Co. 121 p. 12°.
- KENNEDY, J. *A Stem Dictionary of the English Language.* New York, Amer. Book Co. 282 p. 8°.
- MILNE, J. J., and DAVIS, R. F. *Geometrical Conics. Part I. The Parabola.* London and New York, Macmillan. 72 p. 12°. 60 cents.
- MORRIS, C. *An Elementary History of the United States.* Philadelphia, Lippincott. 250 p. 12°. 60 cents.
- ORPHEUS, The. Vol. I. No. 1. Aug. 15, 1890. St. Paul, Minn., Orpheus Publ. Co. 16 p. f°. \$1 per year.
- PRESTON, T. *The Theory of Light.* London and New York, Macmillan. 465 p. 8°. \$3.25.
- THRUSTON, G. P. *The Antiquities of Tennessee and the Adjacent States.* Cincinnati, Robert Clarke & Co. 369 p. 8°. \$4.
- U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. *Report on the Substitution of Metal for Wood in Railroad Ties,* by E. E. R. Tratman, C.E., together with a Discussion on Practicable Economies in the Use of Wood for Railway Purposes, by B. E. Fernow. Washington, Government. 363 p. 8°.

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